

LABOR RELATIONS/CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BOARD ROOM
WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BUILDING
WILLMAR, MINNESOTA

April 4, 2016
6:00 p.m.

The special meeting of the Willmar City Council called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Willmar Municipal Utilities Commission. Members present on a roll call were Mayor Marv Calvin, Council Members Ron Christianson, Andrew Plowman, Denis Anderson, Rick Fagerlie, Shawn Mueske, and Audrey Nelsen. Present 7, Absent 2. Council Members Tim Johnson and Steve Ahmann were excused from the meeting.

Also present were City Administrator Larry Kruse.

Item No. 1 Council Member Christianson made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. §13D.03. to discuss negotiation strategies for the City including labor relation contracts, insurance and compensation for the Supervisors and Confidential Employees Group. Council Member Mueske seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting was closed at 6:01 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened in the Council Chambers at 6:22 p.m. by motion of Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member Mueske and passed. Mayor Calvin declared the meeting open.

Mayor Calvin noted the addition to the agenda of consideration of a labor contract with the Supervisors and Confidential Employees Group.

Item No. 2 City Administrator Larry Kruse presented an update on the merger of the City's Assessing Department with the County. He stated he has met with the County's Administration, Human Resources Director, Assessor and Auditor to negotiate duties. It was noted that the City will be required to abolish the Assessing Department by means of ordinance and notify the AFSCME General Unit. Council Member Anderson commented on the layoff of three employees by contract and the distribution of some duties within the City such as the special assessments to the Engineering Department. It was noted the County will be developing a memorandum of understanding with a tentative turnover date of July 1, 2016.

Item No. 3 City Administrator Kruse presented for the Council's consideration the negotiated contract for the Supervisors and Confidential Employees Group for 2016. He stated its standard language was similar to what all the other units have. Interest on accrued sick leave would change from 6% to 0% at the end of the year. The deferred compensation has been extended for another year through 2016 with the concept that it will not be offered to new hires after January 1, 2017. Employees who are promoted into that group who have a hire date prior to January 1, 2017 will be eligible for the deferred compensation. Double Gold will be provided through 2016 for \$90 a month for family coverage and one-year contract with a 2.5% increase retroactive to January 1, 2016 was proposed.

Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve the negotiated labor contract for the Supervisors and Confidential Employees as presented contingent on final approval by the City's Labor Attorney Frank Madden and the Labor Group. Council Member Mueske seconded the motion, which carried.

Council Member Mueske made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Council Member Plowman seconding the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Attest:

MAYOR

SECRETARY TO THE COUNCIL